

Multiplication in differential cohomology and cohomology operation

Kiyonori GOMI

Kyoto University

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Talk about

a relationship between

- **multiplications in differential cohomology theories**
- **classical cohomology operations**

- 1 **Introduction**
- 2 **Definition of differential cohomology**
- 3 **Differential cohomology in physics**
- 4 **Case of ordinary cohomology**
- 5 **Case of K -cohomology**

Introduction

- In general, a **differential cohomology** is a refinement of a generalized cohomology theory involving information of differential forms on smooth manifolds.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{ordinary cohomology} & \rightarrow & \text{differential ordinary cohomology} \\
 K\text{-cohomology} & \rightarrow & \text{differential } K\text{-cohomology} \\
 \vdots & & \vdots
 \end{array}$$

- **A differential cohomology theory is also called a “smooth cohomology theory”.**
- **For the ordinary cohomology, its differential version (differential ordinary cohomology) has been known as:**
 - **the group of Cheeger-Simons’ differential characters**
 - **the smooth Deligne cohomology**
- **The differential version of any generalized cohomology was introduced in a work of Hopkins and Singer [JDG, math/0211216].**

- For some generalized cohomology theory h^* , its differential version \check{h}^* admits a multiplication:

$$\cup : \check{h}^m(X) \otimes \check{h}^n(X) \longrightarrow \check{h}^{m+n}(X)$$

compatible with the multiplication in the underlying cohomology theory h^* . (e.g. \check{H}^* and \check{K}^*)

- If the multiplication in \check{h}^* is graded-commutative, then the squaring map on odd classes

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \check{q} : \check{h}^{2k+1}(X) & \longrightarrow & \check{h}^{4k+2}(X) \\ x & \longmapsto & x^2 \end{array}$$

is a homomorphism.

$$\check{q}(x + y) = x^2 + xy + yx + y^2 = \check{q}(x) + \check{q}(y)$$

- Moreover, the map reduces to a homomorphism

$$\check{q} : h^{2k+1}(X) \longrightarrow h^{4k+1}(X; \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}).$$

“Main Theorem”

In the case of \check{H}^* and \check{K}^* , the homomorphisms \check{q} are related to the Steenrod operations and the Adams operations.

- The map \check{q} appears in two contexts of physics
 - Chern-Simons theory in 5-dimensions [Witten]
 - Hamiltonian quantization of self-dual generalized abelian gauge fields [Freed-Moore-Segal]

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(almost done)
- 2 **Definition of differential cohomology**
(definitions and properties of \check{H}^* and \check{K}^*)
- 3 **Differential cohomology in physics**
(relation to the two contexts of physics)
- 4 **Case of ordinary cohomology**
- 5 **Case of K -cohomology**

Definition of differential cohomology

Definition of differential ordinary cohomology

- The **differential ordinary cohomology** $\check{H}^n(X)$ of a smooth manifold X consists of the equivalence classes of differential cocycles of degree n .
- A **differential cocycle** of degree n is a triple:

$$(c, h, \omega) \in C^n(X; \mathbb{Z}) \times C^{n-1}(X; \mathbb{R}) \times \Omega^n(X)$$

$$\delta c = 0, \quad d\omega = 0, \quad \omega = c + \delta h.$$

- (c, h, ω) and (c', h', ω') are **equivalent** if:

$$\exists (b, k) \in C^{n-1}(X; \mathbb{Z}) \times C^{n-2}(X; \mathbb{R})$$

$$c' - c = \delta b, \quad \omega' = \omega, \quad h - h' = b + \delta k.$$

Examples

$$\begin{aligned}\check{H}^0(X) &= \{(c, \omega) \in C_{\mathbb{Z}}^0 \times \Omega^0 \mid \delta c = 0, d\omega = 0, c = \omega\} \\ &\cong H^0(X; \mathbb{Z})\end{aligned}$$

$$\check{H}^1(X) \cong C^\infty(X, U(1))$$

$$\check{H}^2(X) \cong \{U(1)\text{-bundle with connection}/X\}/\text{isom}$$

$$\check{H}^3(X) \cong \{\text{abelian gerbe with connection}/X\}/\text{isom}$$

Addition and Multiplication

- The differential cohomology $\check{H}^*(X)$ is an additive group:

$$(c, h, \omega) + (c', h', \omega') = (c + c', h + h', \omega + \omega').$$

- $\check{H}^*(X)$ is a graded-commutative ring:

$$\begin{aligned} & (c, h, \omega) \cup (c', h', \omega') \\ &= (c \cup c', (-1)^{|c|} c \cup h' + h \cup \omega' + B(\omega \otimes \omega'), \omega \wedge \omega'), \end{aligned}$$

where $B : \Omega^*(X) \otimes \Omega^*(X) \rightarrow C^*(X; \mathbb{R})$ is a functorial homomorphism satisfying

$$\omega \wedge \omega' - \omega \cup \omega' = Bd(\omega \otimes \omega') - \delta B(\omega \otimes \omega').$$

Example

$$\cup : \check{H}^1(S^1) \times \check{H}^1(S^1) \longrightarrow \check{H}^2(S^1)$$

$$\begin{cases} \check{H}^1(S^1) = C^\infty(S^1, U(1)) (= LU(1)) \\ \check{H}^2(S^1) = \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} (= \text{holonomy around } S^1) \end{cases}$$

$$f : S^1 \rightarrow U(1) \Rightarrow \begin{cases} F : S^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} & \text{lift of } f \\ \Delta_f = F(\theta + 2\pi) - F(\theta) & \text{winding } \sharp \end{cases}$$

$$f \cup g = \Delta_f G(0) - \int_0^{2\pi} F \frac{dG}{d\theta} d\theta \pmod{\mathbb{Z}}$$

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Remark $c(f, g) = \exp 2\pi\sqrt{-1}(f \cup g)$ gives a 2-cocycle defining the central extension of $LU(1)$ of level 2.

The 1st exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow \Omega^{n-1}(X) / \Omega_{\mathbb{Z}}^{n-1}(X) \xrightarrow{i} \check{H}^n(X) \xrightarrow{\chi} H^n(X; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow 0,$$

$$(c, h, \omega) \mapsto c$$

where $\Omega_{\mathbb{Z}}^p(X)$ means the group of closed integral p -forms.

Example

$\check{H}^2(X) \cong \{U(1)\text{-bundle with connection}/X\}/\text{isom}$

$\chi[(P, A)] = \text{Chern class of } P$

$\Omega^1(X) / \Omega_{\mathbb{Z}}^1(X) = \{\text{connection on } P\} / \text{gauge equivalence}$

The 2nd exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow H^{n-1}(X; \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \check{H}^n(X) \xrightarrow{\delta} \Omega_{\mathbb{Z}}^n(X) \rightarrow 0.$$

$$(c, h, \omega) \mapsto \omega$$

Example

$$\check{H}^2(X) \cong \{U(1)\text{-bundles with connection}/X\}/\text{isom}$$

$$\delta[(P, A)] = \frac{-1}{2\pi\sqrt{-1}} F(A)$$

$$H^2(X; \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}) = \{\text{flat } U(1)\text{-bundle}/X\}/\text{isom}$$

The multiplication is compatible with the exact sequences

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \longrightarrow & \Omega^{n-1}(X)/\Omega_{\mathbb{Z}}^{n-1}(X) & \xrightarrow{i} & \check{H}^n(X) & \xrightarrow{\chi} & H^n(X; \mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow 0, \\
 0 & \longrightarrow & H^{n-1}(X; \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}) & \longrightarrow & \check{H}^n(X) & \xrightarrow{\delta} & \Omega_{\mathbb{Z}}^n(X) \longrightarrow 0.
 \end{array}$$

- The cup product in $H^*(X; \mathbb{Z})$;
- The wedge product in $\Omega_{\mathbb{Z}}^*(X)$;
- The product in $\Omega^*(X)/\Omega_{\mathbb{Z}}^*(X)$.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \Omega^{m-1}/\Omega_{\mathbb{Z}}^{m-1} \otimes \Omega^{n-1}/\Omega_{\mathbb{Z}}^{n-1} & \longrightarrow & \Omega^{m+n-1}/\Omega_{\mathbb{Z}}^{m+n-1} \\
 \eta \otimes \eta' & \mapsto & \eta \wedge d\eta'
 \end{array}$$

Preliminary to the definition of differential K -cohomology

- For $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, define $C^{|n|}(X; \mathbb{R})$ and $\Omega^{|n|}(X)$ by

$$C^{|n|}(X; \mathbb{R}) = \begin{cases} \prod_{m \geq 0} C^{2m}(X; \mathbb{R}), & (n : \text{even}) \\ \prod_{m \geq 0} C^{2m+1}(X; \mathbb{R}). & (n : \text{odd}) \end{cases}$$

$$\Omega^{|n|}(X) = \begin{cases} \prod_{m \geq 0} \Omega^{2m}(X), & (n : \text{even}) \\ \prod_{m \geq 0} \Omega^{2m+1}(X). & (n : \text{odd}) \end{cases}$$

- Let \mathbb{K}^n be the classifying space of K^n .
(i.e. $K^n(X) = [X, \mathbb{K}^n]$ for any CW complex.)
- Let $\iota_n \in C^{|n|}(\mathbb{K}^n; \mathbb{R})$ be a cocycle representing the universal Chern character class.
(i.e. $\text{ch}([c]) = [c^* \iota_n]$ for any $c : X \rightarrow \mathbb{K}^n$.)

The definition of differential K -cohomology

- The **differential K -cohomology** $\check{K}^n(X)$ of a smooth manifold X consists of the equivalence classes of differential K -cocycles of degree n .

- A **differential K -cocycle** of degree n is a triple:

$$(c, h, \omega) \in \text{Map}(X, \mathbb{K}^n) \times C^{|n-1|}(X; \mathbb{R}) \times \Omega^{|n|}(X)$$

$$d\omega = 0, \quad \omega = c^* \iota_n + \delta h.$$

- $x = (c, h, \omega)$ and $x' = (c', h', \omega')$ are **equivalent** if there is a differentiable K -cocycle $\tilde{x} = (\tilde{c}, \tilde{h}, \tilde{\omega})$ on $X \times I$ s.t.

$$\tilde{x}|_{t=0} = x, \quad \tilde{x}|_{t=1} = x', \quad \tilde{\omega}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right) = 0.$$

Property of the differential K -cohomology

- $\check{K}^*(X)$ gives rise to a graded-commutative ring.
- $\check{K}^n(X)$ fits into the natural exact sequences:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & \Omega^{|n-1|}(X)/\Omega_K^{|n-1|}(X) & \longrightarrow & \check{K}^n(X) & \longrightarrow & K^n(X) \longrightarrow 0, \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & K^{n-1}(X; \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}) & \longrightarrow & \check{K}^n(X) & \longrightarrow & \Omega_K^{|n|}(X) \longrightarrow 0, \end{array}$$

where $\Omega_K^{|n|}(X)$ is the group of closed forms representing the image of the Chern character $\text{ch} : K^n(X) \rightarrow H^{|n|}(X; \mathbb{R})$.

- The multiplication is compatible with these sequences.

Comments on the general case

- For any generalized cohomology theory h^* , its differential version \check{h}^* is defined in a way similar to the case of the K -cohomology, by using classifying spaces.
- \check{h}^* also fits into two natural exact sequences.
- It is unclear whether the differential cohomology of a multiplicative cohomology theory admits a compatible multiplication.

(All the cohomology theories obtained by the Landweber exact functor theorem have compatible multiplications.
[Bunke-Schick-Schröder-Wiethaup])

Differential cohomology in Physics

- **Relationship between \check{q} and:**
 - **Chern-Simons theory in 5-dimensions**
 - **Hamiltonian quantization of self-dual abelian generalized gauge fields**

- **The key is interpretation of differential cocycles.**

Interpretation of differential cocycles

- **Differential (ordinary) cocycles are abelian gauge fields and their generalization.**

$$\check{H}^1(X) \cong C^\infty(X, U(1))$$

$$\check{H}^2(X) \cong \{U(1)\text{-bundle with connection}/X\}/\text{isom}$$

$$\check{H}^3(X) \cong \{\text{abelian gerbe with connection}/X\}/\text{isom}$$

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- **Differential (ordinary) cocycles are abelian gauge fields and their generalization.**

$$\check{H}^1(X) \cong C^\infty(X, U(1))$$

periodic scalar field

$$\check{H}^2(X) \cong \{U(1)\text{-bundle with connection}/X\}/\text{isom}$$

$U(1)$ -gauge field

$$\check{H}^3(X) \cong \{\text{abelian gerbe with connection}/X\}/\text{isom}$$

B -field (2-form gauge field)

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B -field (2-form gauge field)

- Differential K -cocycles can be thought of as **Ramond-Ramond fields** in type II string theory. (degree 0 for IIA, and degree 1 for IIB)

Witten's 5-dimensional Chern-Simons theory

- X : closed oriented 5-dimensional manifold
- the space of fields (modulo gauge transformation)

$$\mathcal{B}_{\text{RR}} \times \mathcal{B}_{\text{NS}} = \check{H}^3(X) \times \check{H}^3(X)$$

- the action functional $I_{\text{CS}} : \mathcal{B}_{\text{RR}} \times \mathcal{B}_{\text{NS}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$

$$I_{\text{CS}}(B_{\text{RR}}, B_{\text{NS}}) = \int_X^{\check{H}} B_{\text{RR}} \cup B_{\text{NS}},$$

where $\int_X^{\check{H}}$ is the integration in \check{H}^* :

$$\int_X^{\check{H}} : \check{H}^6(X) \xrightarrow{\cong} \check{H}^1(\text{pt}) \cong \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}.$$

- On $\mathcal{B}_{\text{RR}} \times \mathcal{B}_{\text{NS}}$, $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ acts:

$$(B_{\text{RR}}, B_{\text{NS}}) \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = (aB_{\text{RR}} + cB_{\text{NS}}, bB_{\text{RR}} + dB_{\text{NS}})$$

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- But, I_{CS} is not generally invariant under the action:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$(B_{RR}, B_{NS}) \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = (aB_{RR} + cB_{NS}, bB_{RR} + dB_{NS})$$

- But, I_{CS} is not generally invariant under the action:

$$I_{CS}((B_{RR}, B_{NS}) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}) = I_{CS}(B_{RR}, B_{NS}),$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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- But, I_{CS} is not generally invariant under the action:

$$I_{\text{CS}}((B_{\text{RR}}, B_{\text{NS}}) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}) = I_{\text{CS}}(B_{\text{RR}}, B_{\text{NS}}),$$

$$I_{\text{CS}}((B_{\text{RR}}, B_{\text{NS}}) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}) = I_{\text{CS}}(B_{\text{RR}}, B_{\text{NS}}) + \int_{\mathcal{X}} \check{H} B_{\text{RR}} \cup B_{\text{RR}}.$$

- $\check{q} : \check{H}^3(X) \rightarrow \check{H}^6(X)$ is the obstruction to the $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ -invariance of I_{CS} .
- In the case that $X = 4$ -dimensional spin manifold $\times S^1$, Witten showed the $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ -invariance on a subgroup in $\mathcal{B}_{RR} \times \mathcal{B}_{NS}$.
- Main result implies that I_{CS} is generally $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ -invariant for any 5-dimensional spin manifold.

Hamiltonian quantization of Freed-Moore-Segal

- Freed-Moore-Segal studied Hamiltonian quantization of self-dual generalized abelian gauge theories.
- In particular, they defined the quantum Hilbert space to be a unique representation space of a central extension \hat{A} of an abelian group A .

- 1 self-dual $2k$ -form fields in $(4k + 2)$ -dimensions:

$$A = \check{H}^{2k+1}(X), \quad \dim X = 4k + 1$$

($k = 0$: theory of chiral scalar fields or $U(1)$ WZW)

- 2 RR fields in type II string:

$$A = \check{K}^n(X), \quad \dim X = 9$$

- In the construction of \hat{A} , the squaring map \tilde{q} appears.

Classification of central extensions

A : an abelian group with a reasonable condition.

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\{ \text{central extension } \hat{A} \text{ of } A \text{ by } U(1) \right\} / \text{isom} \\ & \cong H_{\text{group}}^2(A; \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}) \\ & = \{c : A \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} \mid \text{cocycle condition}\} / \text{coboundary} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & U(1) & \longrightarrow & \hat{A} & \longrightarrow & A \longrightarrow 0 \\ & & & & \parallel & & \\ & & & & A \times U(1) & & \end{array}$$

$$(a, z) \cdot (a', z') = (a + a', z z' \exp 2\pi \sqrt{-1} c(a, a'))$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\{ \text{central extension } \hat{A} \text{ of } A \text{ by } U(1) \right\} / \text{isom} \\ & \cong \{c : A \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} \mid \text{cocycle condition}\} / \text{coboundary} \\ & \cong \{s : A \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z} \mid \text{biadditive, skew, alternating}\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{biadditive} : \begin{cases} s(a + a', b) = s(a, b) + s(a', b) \\ s(a, b + b') = s(a, b) + s(a, b') \end{cases}$$

$$\text{skew} : s(a, b) = -s(b, a)$$

$$\text{alternating} : s(a, a) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} c(a, b) & \mapsto s(a, b) = c(a, b) - c(b, a) \\ \text{coboundary} & \mapsto 0 \end{aligned}$$

- **Apply the classification to:**

$$A = \check{H}^{2k+1}(X), \quad \dim X = 4k + 1.$$

To specify a central extension of A , it suffices to choose $s : A \times A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$ which is biadditive, skew and alternating.

- **A naive construction:**

$$s_{\text{trial}}(x, y) = \int_X^{\check{H}} x \cup y.$$

This is biadditive and skew, but not alternating:

$$s_{\text{trial}}(x, x) = \int_X^{\check{H}} \check{q}(x) \stackrel{?}{=} 0$$

- **Freed-Moore-Segal:**

$$s(x, y) = \int_X^{\check{H}} x \cup y - \frac{1}{2} \epsilon(x) \epsilon(y),$$

$$\epsilon(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & (\check{q}(x) = 0 \in \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}) \\ 1, & (\check{q}(x) = 1/2 \in \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}) \end{cases}$$

This is biadditive, skew and alternating. ($\Rightarrow \hat{A}$)

- **In the case that $k = 0$ and $X = S^1$, the resulting central extension \hat{A} is the basic central extension $\widetilde{LU}(1)$ of $A = \check{H}^1(S^1) = C^\infty(S^1, U(1)) = LU(1)$.**

Main result in the case of ordinary cohomology

Lemma

The squaring map $\check{q} : \check{H}^{2k+1}(X) \rightarrow \check{H}^{4k+2}(X)$ reduces to a homomorphism $\tilde{q} : H^{2k+1}(X; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^{4k+1}(X; \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})$.

Proof

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \Omega^{2k}(X)/\Omega_{\mathbb{Z}}^{2k}(X) & \xrightarrow{i} & \check{H}^{2k+1}(X) & \longrightarrow & H^{2k+1}(X; \mathbb{Z}) \\
 & & \downarrow & & \\
 H^{4k+1}(X; \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}) & \longrightarrow & \check{H}^{4k+2}(X) & \xrightarrow{\delta} & \Omega^{4k+2}(X)_{\mathbb{Z}}
 \end{array}$$

- $\delta(\tilde{x} \cup \tilde{x}) = (\text{odd form})^2 = 0$

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 \swarrow \\
 H^{4k+1}(X; \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow \check{H}^{4k+2}(X) \xrightarrow{\delta} \Omega^{4k+2}(X)_{\mathbb{Z}}
 \end{array}$$

- $\delta(\tilde{x} \cup \tilde{x}) = (\text{odd form})^2 = 0$
- $i([\eta]) \cup i([\eta]) = i([\eta \wedge d\eta]) = i([\frac{1}{2}d(\eta^2)]) = 0$

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Lemma

The squaring map $\check{q} : \check{H}^{2k+1}(X) \rightarrow \check{H}^{4k+2}(X)$ reduces to a homomorphism $\tilde{q} : H^{2k+1}(X; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^{4k+1}(X; \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})$.

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 & & \swarrow \text{dashed} & \searrow & \\
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- $\delta(\tilde{x} \cup \tilde{x}) = (\text{odd form})^2 = 0$
- $i([\eta]) \cup i([\eta]) = i([\eta \wedge d\eta]) = i([\frac{1}{2}d(\eta^2)]) = 0$ □

Theorem (case of ordinary cohomology)

The homomorphism $\tilde{q} : H^{2k+1}(X; \mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow H^{4k+1}(X; \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})$ factors through the Steenrod squaring operation Sq^{2k} :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} H^{2k+1}(X; \mathbb{Z}) & \xrightarrow{\rho} & H^{2k+1}(X; \mathbb{Z}/2) \\ & & \downarrow Sq^{2k} \\ & & H^{4k+1}(X; \mathbb{Z}/2) \longrightarrow H^{4k+1}(X; \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}) \end{array}$$

Proof The theorem follows from a description of Sq^{2k} . □

Cororally

- For any closed 5-dimensional spin manifold X , the map $\check{q} : \check{H}^3(X) \rightarrow \check{H}^5(X)$ is trivial: $\check{q} = 0$.
- Thus, $I_{CS} : \mathcal{B}_{RR} \times \mathcal{B}_{NS} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$ is $SL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ -invariant.

$$\text{Sq}^2(c) = w_2(X) \cup c, \quad c \in H^2(X; \mathbb{Z}/2)$$

Main result in the case of K -cohomology

Lemma

The map \check{q} is compatible with the Bott periodicity:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \check{K}^{2k+1}(X) & \xrightarrow{\check{q}} & \check{K}^{4k+2}(X) \\
 \cong \downarrow & & \downarrow \cong \\
 \check{K}^{2k+2\ell+1}(X) & \xrightarrow{\check{q}} & \check{K}^{4k+4\ell+2}(X)
 \end{array}$$

Consider the case that $k = 0$ only.

Lemma

The map \check{q} reduces to $\check{q} : K^1(X) \rightarrow K^1(X; \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})$.

The proof is the same as that in the ordinary case.

Proposition

The map $\tilde{q} : K^1(X) \rightarrow K^1(X; \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z})$ factors as follows:

$$K^1(X) \xrightarrow{q} K^1(X; \mathbb{Z}/2) \longrightarrow K^1(X; \mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}).$$

The map q is a lift of the squaring in K^* , induced from the graded-commutativity of the multiplication in K^* :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & K^1(X) & & & & \\
 & & \downarrow q & \searrow \text{square} & & & \\
 \cdots & \xrightarrow{\rho} & K^1(X; \mathbb{Z}/2) & \xrightarrow{\text{Bock}} & K^2(X) & \xrightarrow{2(\cdot)} & K^2(X) \xrightarrow{\rho} \cdots
 \end{array}$$

Comments

- $Sq^{2k} \circ \rho$ has the same property as q in K^* :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 H^{2k+1}(X; \mathbb{Z}) & & & & \\
 \downarrow Sq^{2k} \circ \rho & \searrow \text{square} & & & \\
 H^{4k+1}(X; \mathbb{Z}/2) & \xrightarrow{\text{Bock}} & H^{4k+2}(X; \mathbb{Z}) & \xrightarrow{2(\cdot)} & H^{4k+2}(X; \mathbb{Z})
 \end{array}$$

- It is unclear whether q in K^* factors through ρ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 K^1(X) & \xrightarrow{\rho} & K^1(X; \mathbb{Z}/2) \\
 & \searrow q & \downarrow ? \\
 & & K^1(X; \mathbb{Z}/2)
 \end{array}$$

(Reasonable multiplications in $K^*(X; \mathbb{Z}/2)$ are not graded-commutative. [Araki-Toda])

Theorem (case of K -cohomology)

The map $q : \tilde{K}^1(X) \rightarrow \tilde{K}^1(X; \mathbb{Z}/2)$ is the delooping of the composition of the Adams operation ψ^2 and the mod 2 reduction ρ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \tilde{K}^0(X) & \xrightarrow{\psi^2} & \tilde{K}^0(X) & \xrightarrow{\rho} & \tilde{K}^0(X; \mathbb{Z}/2) \\
 \cong \downarrow & & & & \downarrow \cong \\
 \tilde{K}^1(S^1 \wedge X) & \xrightarrow{q} & & \xrightarrow{} & \tilde{K}^1(S^1 \wedge X; \mathbb{Z}/2)
 \end{array}$$

Proof Theorem follows from:

$$q(xy) = q(x) \cup \rho(y^2), \quad (x \in K^1(X), y \in K^0(X))$$

$$\rho(y^2) = \rho(\psi^2(y)), \quad (y \in K^0(X))$$

$$q(x) = \rho(x). \quad (x \in K^1(S^1)).$$

Computation of $q : K^1(S^1) \rightarrow K^1(S^1; \mathbb{Z}/2)$

- 1 Realize $1 \in K^1(S^1) = \mathbb{Z}$ by a family of self-adjoint Fredholm operators parametrized by $(I, \partial I)$.
- 2 Rewrite $q(1)$ through:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & K^1(I, \partial I; \mathbb{Z}/2) \\
 & \cong K^{-1}(I, \partial I; \mathbb{Z}/2) && \text{(periodicity)} \\
 & \cong K^{-1}(I, \partial I)/2K^{-1}(I, \partial I) && (\tilde{K}^0(S^1) = 0) \\
 & = K^0(I^2, \partial I^2)/2K^0(I^2, \partial I^2) && \text{(definition)}
 \end{aligned}$$

- 3 Formulations of $K^0(D^2, S^1) = \mathbb{Z}$: ∞ -dim \rightarrow finite-dim
- 4 Compute a winding number to conclude $q(1) \neq 0$. □

- **As a simple corollary, we can compute**

$$q : K^1(X) \rightarrow K^1(X; \mathbb{Z}/2)$$

in the case of $X = S^{2m+1}$.

$m = 0$ $q : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2$ is non-trivial.

$m > 0$ $q : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/2$ is trivial.

Problem/Conjecture [Freed]

The map q factors as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & \tilde{K}^1(X) & & & & \\
 & \swarrow^{\Sigma^{-1}\psi^2} & \downarrow q & \searrow^{\text{square}} & & & \\
 \cdots & \xrightarrow{2(\cdot)} & \tilde{K}^1(X) & \xrightarrow{\rho} & \tilde{K}^1(X; \mathbb{Z}/2) & \xrightarrow{\text{Bock}} & \tilde{K}^2(X) \xrightarrow{2(\cdot)} \cdots
 \end{array}$$

where $\Sigma^{-1}\psi^2$ is a delooping of the Adams square ψ^2 defined by Freed-Hopkins:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \tilde{K}^0(X) & \xrightarrow{\psi^2} & \tilde{K}^0(X) \\
 \cong \downarrow & & \downarrow \cong \\
 \tilde{K}^1(S^1 \wedge X) & \xrightarrow{\Sigma^{-1}\psi^2} & \tilde{K}^1(S^1 \wedge X).
 \end{array}$$

Problem/Conjecture [Freed]

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$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & \tilde{K}^1(X) & & & & \\
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 \cdots & \xrightarrow{2(\cdot)} & \tilde{K}^1(X) & \xrightarrow{\rho} & \tilde{K}^1(X; \mathbb{Z}/2) & \xrightarrow{\text{Bock}} & \tilde{K}^2(X) \xrightarrow{2(\cdot)} \cdots
 \end{array}$$

where $\Sigma^{-1}\psi^2$ is a delooping of the Adams square ψ^2 defined by Freed-Hopkins:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \tilde{K}^0(X) & \xrightarrow{\psi^2} & \tilde{K}^0(X) \\
 \cong \downarrow & & \downarrow \cong \\
 \tilde{K}^1(S^1 \wedge X) & \xrightarrow{\Sigma^{-1}\psi^2} & \tilde{K}^1(S^1 \wedge X).
 \end{array}$$

Remark $x^2 = 0$ for $\forall x \in K^1(X)$. ($K^*(U_\infty)$ is torsion free.)